

Another day in 'Obamamaha'

Democratic caucus turnout strong

SCOTT STEWART & TAYLOR MULLER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF NEWS EDITOR

Nebraska Democrats might have been moved by his decision to visit the Civic Auditorium on Thursday.



photo by Bill Wendt

Democrats living in Legislative District 6 gather in the gymnasium of Western Hills Magnet School.

They might have thought that hope wasn't as audacious as some people thought.

One thing's for sure, though. This weekend, Nebraska voters said "Yes, we can!"

By more than a 2-to-1 margin, Nebraskans who participated in Saturday's Democratic caucus favored Barack Obama over Hillary Clinton.

In total, with all precincts reporting, Obama is projected to have 434 delegates to Clinton's 224 in the Nebraska Democratic State Convention. One delegate is also projected by the Nebraska Democratic Party to be uncommitted, according to the party's Web site, nebraskademocrats.org.

At the state convention in August, the Nebraska Democratic Party will choose 31 delegates to send to the Democratic National Committee Convention. The DNCC will

host 4049 delegates in total, according to *The New York Times*.

Those 31 delegates will include seven delegates whose votes were not pledged by Saturday's caucus results, including two – U.S. Sen. Ben Nelson and National Committeeman Vince Powers – who support Obama, according to the party's Web site, nebraskademocrats.com.

Of the remaining delegates, Clinton will one delegate for every two of Obama's, with eight and 16 delegates respectively.

Jared Brower, president of the UNO College Democrats, said he wasn't surprised by the turnout or that a lot of young voters supported Obama. He also said that, while the College Democrats doesn't officially support either candidate, most of the group favors Obama.

"[The turnout] could mean we get a bunch of people involved, people that hadn't been involved in the democratic process before," Brower said. "They're realizing it's more than checking a box and leaving. They're making a commitment on a Saturday morning for couple of hours."

Charlie Dukes, a sophomore class student senator in UNO's student government, said she was one of the minority of college-aged voters who caucused for Clinton.

"I was one of the very few young people for Hillary, and I got quite a few text messages from the other side," Dukes said.

Nebraska voters weren't the only ones supporting Obama this weekend, though.

Obama defeated Clinton in the other two states holding primary competitions on Saturday. He also won three delegates from the Democratic Party's territorial convention

See **CAUCUS**: Page 2

Senate approves affirmative action letter, student group constitutions

Student Senate

BRIAN MOODY
STAFF WRITER

A couple personnel actions, several student organization approvals and a stance on a Nebraska Legislature's affirmative action resolution were on the table during Feb. 7's Student Senate meeting.

Senators passed a letter of statement, authored by President/Regent Lucas Seiler, against Nebraska Legislative Resolution 233CA. Seiler said the constitutional amendment seeks to hamper the university's efforts toward diversity.

"It is needless to say that these ideas, if put into effect, would hinder the progression of this university as a top institution of higher education," Seiler said in the letter.

The resolution will go before a state judiciary committee on Feb. 27.

In other business, senators approved six new student organizations. Among those given the senate's blessing was Sativa, an organization promoting the awareness of public policy issues surrounding marijuana usage.

See **SENATE**: Page 2



photo by Bill Wendt

Barack Obama speaks in Omaha

Illinois Senator Barack Obama spoke at the Civic Auditorium on Thursday, two days before the first Nebraska Democratic caucus was held across the state. Obama won the caucus by a 2-to-1 margin over Hillary Clinton. See pg. 3 for more details.

Vice president and general counsel appointed for University of Nebraska

JILLIAN WHITNEY
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Joel Pedersen was appointed the University of Nebraska's vice president and general counsel on Jan. 30. His predecessor, Richard Wood, retired from office at the end of 2007, after nearly 30 years of service.

According to a statement, Pedersen was chosen as the result of a national search with more than 40 applicants.

NU President James B. Milliken said Pedersen was chosen for the job because of his experience with the NU system.

"Joel has had invaluable experience with the city and the university, structuring complex public-private partnerships and getting major projects completed," Milliken said in the statement. "His experience, judgment and integrity make him well-suited for this important role. I hope Joel will lead our legal team for many years to come."

Pedersen said he was appreciative for the opportunity to represent a university he graduated from.

"I am delighted and grateful for this opportunity. The university is a great client. The university has enjoyed the excellent legal services of my predecessor, Dick Wood, and

it's an honor to continue in that tradition," Pedersen said. "Working with Dick Wood was a great opportunity for me. I learned a lot just being able to watch him work."

Looking to the future, Pedersen said he would be exploring the different expectations the job required of him and the changes he could help bring to the university.

"We are at an unusual point for the university because Dick Wood served nearly 30 years so we have not had a new general counsel at the university during that time, so we do want to take the occasion to review the opportunity that this change allows," Pedersen said. "So we are going to do that in the next 90 days. We are going to take a look and make sure all the expectations are being met by the general counsel spot."

Pedersen received his law degree from the University of Nebraska in 1988. He served as assistant city attorney for Lincoln for 18 years before being hired as the associate general counsel for the University of Nebraska in 2006.

"I'm glad for the opportunity to continue the tradition of excellent legal services at the general counsel office for the university," Pedersen said.



Joel Pedersen

Coming Next Issue...

Update on student budget commission's review of agencies.

www.unogateway.com

Valentine's columns



The girls of the Gateway share a range of perspectives on this Thursday's corporate, sentimental day.

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Hockey wins at home



After tying Friday, the Mavs come back five goals and a brawl later to defeat the Ohio State Buckeyes.

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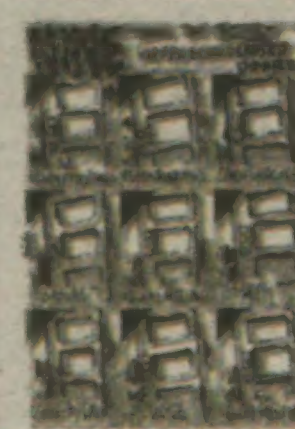
Jazz, arts center open



The Loves Jazz and Arts Center wants to help preserve Africa American art and history in the metro.

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Editorial cartooning



Editor-in-Chief Scott Stewart opines about the importance of editorial cartoons for newspapers.

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News You Can Use

COMPILED BY
SCOTT STEWART
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Faculty Senate meeting tomorrow

Who: UNO Faculty Senate.
What: Regular monthly meeting.
Where: Milo Bail Student Center Dodge Rooms.
When: Wednesday, Feb. 13, at 2 p.m.
Why: To listen to Steve Bullock address accreditation and assessment initiatives on campus.
How: All members of the campus community are invited to attend. Contact President Scott Tarry at 554-3109 or Coordinator Sue Bishop at 554-3598 for more information.

Women's Walk luncheon scheduled for March

Who: Olympic gold medalist Jackie Joyner Kersee.
What: Keynote address at the Diet Pepsi/Women's Walk kickoff luncheon.
Where: Doubletree Hotel in downtown Omaha.
When: March 5, starting at 11:30 a.m. The Women's Walk itself will take place on April 19.
Why: To help continue to raise money for scholarships and program enhancements for female student-athletes.
How: Tickets are \$55 per person or \$500 for a table of 10. Reservations can be made at 554-2533.

Nebraska Shakespeare announces sonnet contest

Who: Adults and high school students.
What: Shakespearean sonnet contest in conjunction

with Shakespeare on the Green 2008.

Where: Entries can be submitted to Sonnet-writing Contest, Nebraska Shakespeare, Department of Theatre, University of Nebraska at Omaha, 6001 Dodge St., Omaha, NE 68182-0154.

When: Entries must be postmarked, faxed or e-mailed no later than Monday, March 17. Winners will be informed on April 21, and an award ceremony will be held May 8.

Why: First prize in the adult division will receive \$100 and all winners will receive a Shakespeare gift pack. The winning entry will also be published in the souvenir program for Shakespeare on the Green.

How: For more information, including submission format and guidelines, visit www.nebraskashakespeare.com or contact Thomas Lowe at 554-3072.

Disabilities walk, roll planned at Westroads

Who: Adult Recreation Therapy program at UNMC Munroe-Meyer Institute.

What: Fundraiser for the MMI through a walk and roll for disabilities event.

Where: Second floor of Westroads Mall, next to Dick's Sporting Goods.

When: Registration begins at 11 a.m. on Feb. 17.

Why: To help raise a \$1 million sustaining endowment to help sponsor programs including chaperoned vacations, social dining, sports clubs and other activities.

How: Registration is \$15 per person and includes a free t-shirt. Refreshments and door prizes will be available for all attendees.

Webinar on classrooms in virtual worlds next week

Who: Aaron Delwiche, an assistant professor of communication and Trinity University.

What: A webinar entitled "Powerful But Not a Panacea: Virtual Worlds as a Tool for Situational Learning."

Where: Milo Bail Student Center U Mon Hon Room.

When: Tuesday, Feb. 19, noon to 1 p.m.

Why: To learn about how virtual worlds present challenges to students, instructors and administrators.

How: Visit the EDUCAUSE Resources Web site, www.educause.edu/eliweb082 for additional resources. Contact Jay Killion at 554-3758 or at jaykillion@unomaha.edu for more information.

French film festival scheduled for Sundays

Who: The French-American Cultural Exchange.

What: Free public exhibitions of contemporary French films.

Where: Eppley Administration Building Auditorium.

When: Showtime is 2 p.m. on the following dates: Feb. 24, "Stupeurs et Tremblements" (PG-13, comedy/drama, 102 min.); March 30, "Indigènes" (R, drama/history, 120 min.); April 20, "Viva Laldgérie" (NR, drama, 113 min.); and May 11, "Comme une Image" (PG-13, comedy, 110 min.).

Why: To experience a taste of French culture through film.

How: For more information, visit www.facecouncil.org or contact Juliet Parnell at 554-3029.

From SENATE: Page 1

In addition, senators gave The Forum, an intellectual, political and ethical debate group, and the 8:08 College Community, a religious leadership outlet, favorable nods as well. The Forum's president is Senate Speaker Nathan Edwards, and its vice presidents include Student Sens. Matt Nelson of the freshman class and Jacque Davis of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Each organization will need final approval of the university before being an officially recognized student group.

Senators also approved the swearing-in of Sen. Theophilus Akah, while reappointing Meg Mandy to the position to legislative and public relations liaison for another year.

Through a previously established Government Liaison Committee by Mandy, several things have taken or are planned to take place, including legislation in support of Nebraska Legislative Bills (Legislative Bills 803 and 991) permitting Election Day voter registration.

"We've been working on that a lot with [the Government Liaison Committee]," Mandy said in discussion during the meeting. "I hope to continue doing that."

Advertising of Student Government events in the Gateway will become more frequent after conflicts were

remedied with the advertising department.

"We have finally got down to figure out what the miscommunication was with our groups and getting things published," Mandy said in discussion. "That's really important for us [because] it's our money, which is students' fees that's paying for ads."

The next Student Senate meeting will be held on Feb. 21 at 7 p.m. in the Milo Bail Student Center.

Attendance at Thursday's senate meeting was lower than usual, in part because of U.S. Sen. Barack Obama's rally that afternoon. Senators who were recorded absent by acting recording secretary Sen. Shari Tangeman included:

- Kiley Clemens, College of Arts & Sciences
- Jacque Davis, College of Arts & Sciences
- Charlie Dukes, sophomore class
- Nathan Edwards, speaker, College of Arts & Sciences
- Dayton Headlee, College of Arts & Sciences
- Autumn Howard, College of Education & Human Services
- Allyson Lenhart, College of Arts & Sciences
- Kyle Maupin, College of Arts & Sciences

Compiled by Staff Writer Brian Moody.

From CAUCUS: Page 1

in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

With 95.9 percent of precincts reporting, Obama carried Washington state with 67.51 percent of caucus-goers. He also won Louisiana with 57 percent of the vote, according to unofficial results from the Office of the Louisiana Secretary of State.

Clinton, however, is far from out of the presidential race. She was still ahead in both the Associated Press and The New York Times projections on Saturday night.

The AP was projecting 1,095 delegates for Clinton and 1,070 delegates for Obama, as well as 26 for John Edwards, who dropped out of the race and has yet to endorse a candidate. The New York Times projected 912 delegates for Clinton, 741 for Obama and 12 for Edwards on Saturday. The Times projects fewer total delegates because it does not include delegates based on nonbinding preference, which the AP does.

Saturday's caucus was not without incident, however.

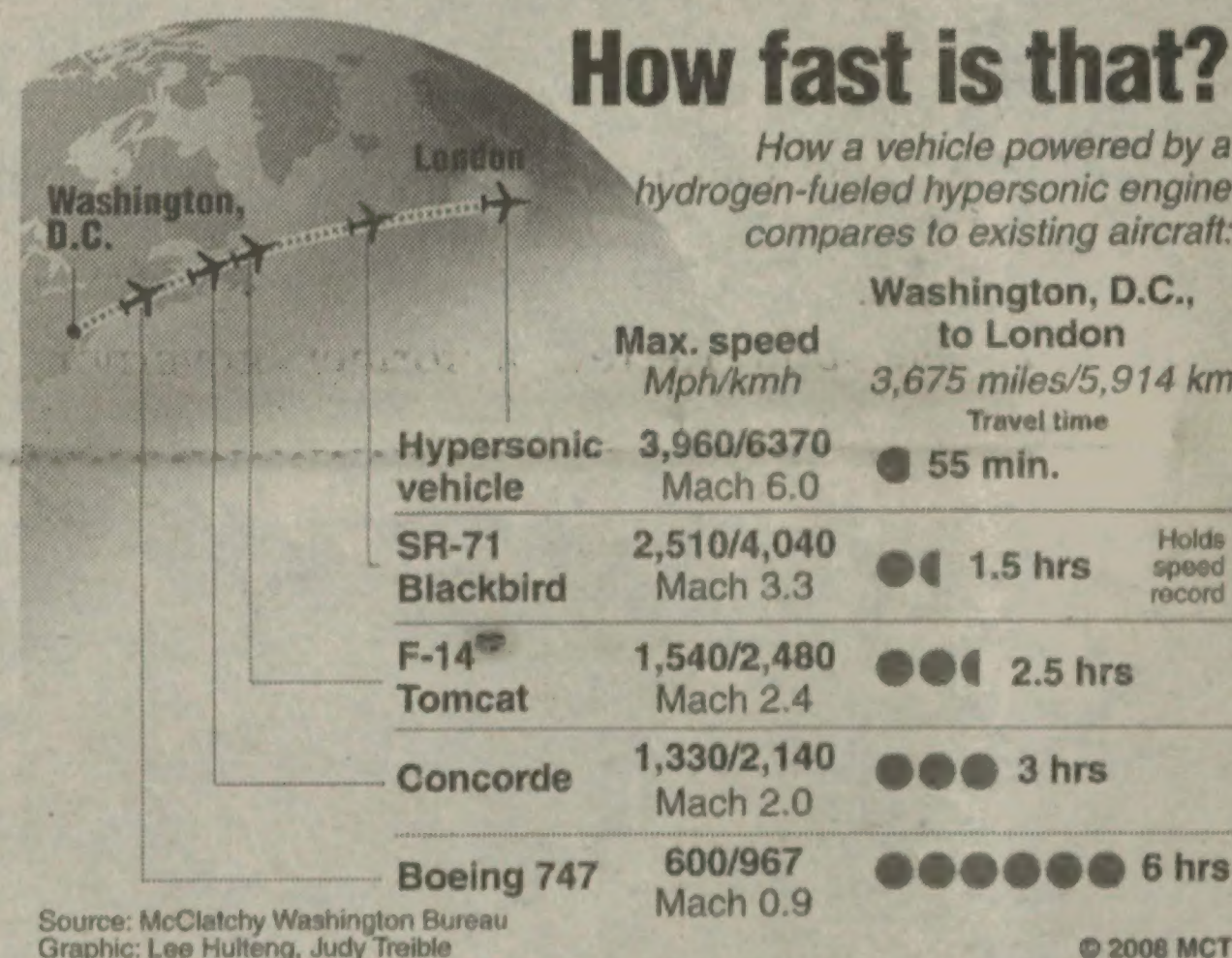
Because it was the first caucus to be held in the state, problems arose with some precincts not following rules correctly and some participants being misinformed about the process.

"There were a lot more people than I imagined would be there. It was really a nice experience, [but the] Nebraska Democrats' Party needs some work on how to run it," Dukes said. "It was inexperience. ... Certain things that should have happened were skipped, and a lot of people were mad. They just wanted to vote, [they] didn't understand it was to convince the independents."

Perhaps the most serious miscommunication occurred between the state Democratic Party and the Douglas County Democratic Party, which held a press release at 4:30 p.m. before all the precincts in the state had finished caucusing.

The state party had asked local parties to hold results until 7:15 p.m., when all caucuses would have convened. Nebraska Democratic Party State Chair Steve Achelpohl sent a statement on Friday night to members of the media requesting that they sequester the results until that time.

"In holding our state's first ever presidential caucus, our hope has always been that we will get more people involved in the political process and the Democratic Party. The decision of the Douglas County Democratic Party to release results Saturday afternoon before all caucuses have convened threatens that goal," Achelpohl said in the statement.



THE

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Obama rally draws Omaha's support just before first Nebraska caucus

ANDREW BURDIC
CONTRIBUTOR

This year, Nebraska might play a crucial role in the presidential election. That potential briefly thrust Omaha into the limelight last week in preparation for the first Nebraska Democratic caucus.

The Omaha Civic Auditorium was filled to the brim on Thursday during a rally for Democratic Presidential Candidate Barack Obama. More than 10,000 people attended the rally.

Obama said he was pursuing the White House because of something Martin Luther King Jr. believed in.

"The dream that so many generations fought for feels like it is slowly slipping away," Obama said. "You know it in your own lives. You see it in your own communities. People are working harder just to get by. They're paying more for college. They're paying more for a gallon of milk. They're paying more for gas at the pump."

Nebraska is often neglected in the presidential races despite being the 38th largest state, as well as having a centralized population. In part, this is because Nebraska only offers a few electors to the Electoral College - five - and is traditionally considered a "red state," having only gone for a Democrat once in the 1964 election of Lyndon B. Johnson.

It was announced last week that Obama would speak at the Civic Auditorium in anticipation of last Saturday's Nebraskan Democratic caucus, the first for the state.

Obama campaigned hard in neighboring Iowa, which caucused earlier this year, and secured the popular vote.

He spoke in many cities throughout Iowa, and made several stops in Council Bluffs. Although he met with contributors in Omaha, the rally was also the first time he had campaigned here.

At the rally, Omaha Mayor Mike Fahey, Iowa Gov. Chet Culver and Nebraska Sen. Ben Nelson all endorsed Obama.

U.S. Sen. Bob Kerrey, a former governor of

Nebraska, has endorsed Obama's Democratic competition, Hillary Clinton.

"I want to tell you we had one of the most electrifying days in the history of our state on Jan. 3, when Barack Obama won Iowa," Culver said. "He won Iowa because he represents a new generation of American political leaders, and he won Iowa because he represents change all of us can believe in."

Culver and Nelson seated themselves on stage after their endorsements and continued to nod in support while Obama spoke.

According to data released Feb. 1 by the Federal Election Commission, Obama has raised more money in the state of Nebraska than any other candidate.

He has raised \$166,585. Clinton raised the second highest amount of money in Nebraska, with \$85,974 and Republican candidate Mitt Romney raised \$84,643.

During the rally, Obama highlighted the issues he believed needed to be addressed immediately, including minimum wage, inflation, under-funded education and health care.

His message was not one of despair, but of hope and change.

"Nebraska, this is our time, and if you will stand with me on Saturday, if you caucus for me, we will not just win this caucus, we will not just win the nomination. We will not just win the general

election, but you and I together, we will reclaim this country, and we will remake the world," he said.

Chelsea Clinton spoke in Nebraska earlier this year, including stops in Lincoln and Omaha on behalf of her mother. Obama's wife, Michelle also campaigned in Nebraska this week.

Showing its support for Obama, local Omaha band Bright Eyes played three songs at the Civic Auditorium before Obama spoke. Bright Eyes, lead by singer Conor Oberst, also played a free show after the rally at The Slowdown, a venue in downtown Omaha owned by Saddle Creek Records.

“In the end, that's what this election is about. Do we participate in a politics of cynicism or a politics of hope?”

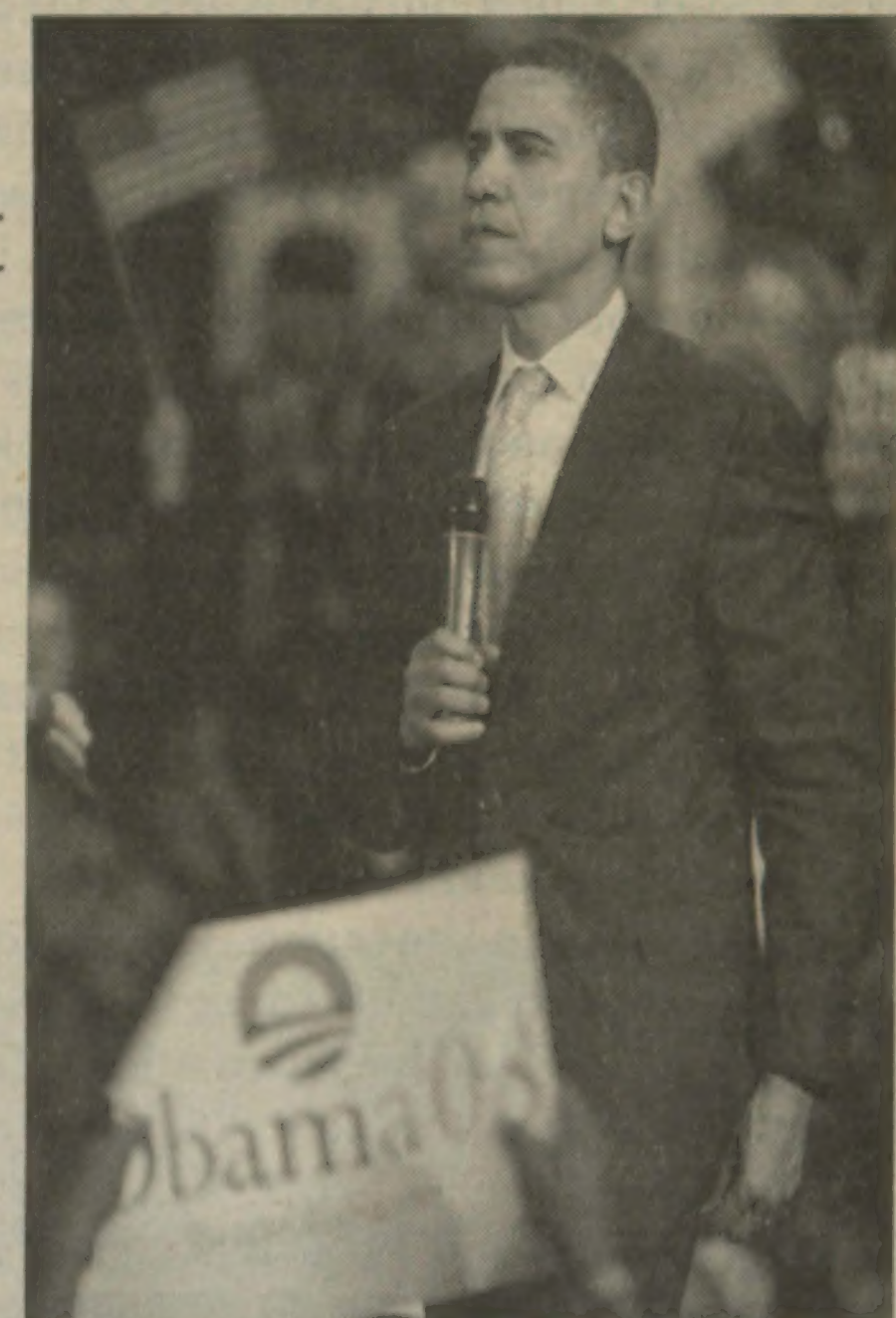


photo by Michelle Bishop

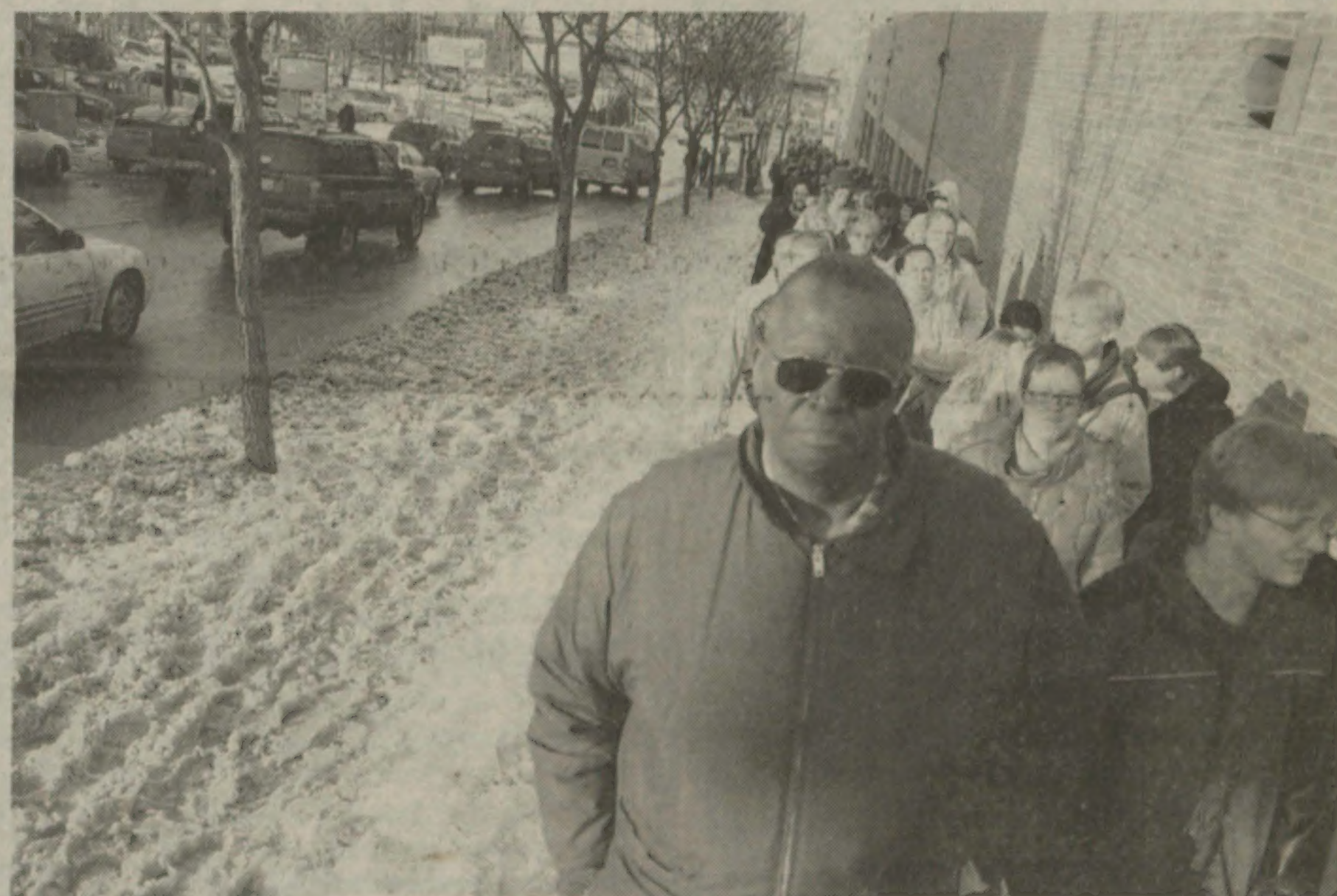


photo by Bill Wendt



photo by Michelle Bishop

Democratic Presidential Candidate Barack Obama (far above, below) speaks at a rally in Omaha on Thursday.

A long line of people (above) snaked around the Civic Auditorium Thursday.

Conor Oberst (left), of the band Bright Eyes, performed before Obama's rally.



photo by Michelle Bishop

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Valentine's Day doesn't

Just say no to VD

If there is one holiday out of the year I'd do away with, I certainly wouldn't have to think twice about it. It'd be Valentine's Day.

I've never been a fan, really. Oversized teddy bears, lame cards and enough candy to make a dentist cringe just isn't my idea of how to celebrate one's love.

Now before you presume that I'm some bitter fem-Nazi who despises the thought of chivalry and old-fashioned love affairs, think again. I'm a hopeless romantic to the core, and I've been happily dating my boyfriend for three years now.

However, I'm also a strong, assertive woman who doesn't need to be told by the Greeting Card Association when and how to showcase my feelings once a year.

Maybe that's because I've had some bad experiences with the holiday.

During our first year together, I explained to my current boyfriend that I didn't need or want

anything for Valentine's Day.

Some women might say that, but in the back of their mind, they're really expecting something (it's one of our many tests, you see). Instead, I just wanted to spend some one-on-one time with my honey.

I was shocked to find out that he made reservations at my favorite restaurant and that he had gotten me a small gift. I'm not going to lie; I was excited. I had never been with someone that made a fuss over the holiday like that.

So I spent an hour getting ready only to realize that our reservations were at 10 p.m. and that my "special gift" was really a six-pack of Propel Fitness Water. Yes, ladies and gents, water. I was almost speechless, which I can honestly tell you almost never happens.

However, I couldn't tell my worst Valentine's Day experience without sharing my best.

Last year, my boyfriend surprised me with a home cooked meal and a hand-made card. It was

one of the sweetest things he could have ever done. As the night wrapped up, we cuddled and watched one of my most beloved movies, "The Princess Bride."

I think the original thought behind the holiday was good: To show the people around you how much they truly mean. But over the past decade or so, I think Hallmark's diluted the meaning to its most superficial terms.

As Feb. 14 inches closer, I'm reminded of a quote: "I don't understand why Cupid was chosen to represent Valentine's Day. When I think about romance, the last thing on my mind is a short, chubby toddler coming at me with a weapon."

While the author of that saying is unknown, what is known is this: Romance is about what you make it. It is not about what retailers sell you.

In other words, just say no to VD!

-Andrea Barbe
Asst. Features/A&L Editor

Valentine's still a hopeful day for a hopeless romantic

Yes, I am a hopeless romantic, a chick-flick lover and one to always believe in Valentine's Day.

How can a girl not?

If any girl says she doesn't like being lavished in expensive dinners, calorie loaded candies and beautiful roses, well, she's full of it.

I realize there are people out there who are disgusted by this commercialized holiday. They say things like "this is just a way for big industry to make money," or "I love my girlfriend every day, I don't need a special day to show it to her." Well, before you make your final decision on this hopeless holiday, hear me out.

I agree, what the hell happened to our holiday? What happened to the hopeless romantic?

Has courtship, chivalry and a goodnight kiss on the cheek gone out the window? With television shows like "Sex and the City" and "Grey's Anatomy" emphasizing one night stands and infidelity, it's hard to think it hasn't.

Then we have these so-called reality shows like "Rock of Love" and "A Shot at Love with Tila Tequila," which are spoiling this idea of love like bad milk. They take it and turn it into a one-hour comedy festival of communal living and dating? Please, it's disgusting.

And I'll be the first to admit that I hate myself for loving it (because you know you love it, too).

But, let's think back. Think back to a better time when there was such a thing as "love" at first sight, not just lust. A time when a millionaire could fall in love with a hooker on the streets of Hollywood. When John Cusack could hold a boom box to your window and win you over. When leaning over the front of a ship, with Celine Dion blaring in the background really meant true love.

Cupid, come back into our lives. Let's start turning this idea of love around and bring romanticism back into the world.

So I'm proposing that we take back this tainted holiday.

Swoon your significant other over this Valentine's Day. Make a mix tape, a macaroni card, or a burnt dinner on a candlelit floor.

True love doesn't have to cost you much, but if you lose it, it could cost you everything.

-Elizabeth Dam
Production Manager

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Jimmy John

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- #9 ITALIAN NIGHT CLUB®**
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- #10 HUNTER'S CLUB®**
A full 1/4 pound of fresh sliced medium rare roast beef, provolone, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.
- #11 COUNTRY CLUB®**
Fresh sliced turkey breast, applewood smoked ham, provolone, and tons of lettuce, tomato, and mayo! (A very traditional, yet always exceptional classic!)
- #12 BEACH CLUB®**
Fresh baked turkey breast, provolone cheese, avocado spread, sliced cucumber, sprouts, lettuce, tomato, and mayo! (It's the real deal, and it ain't even California.)
- #13 GOURMET VEGGIE CLUB®**
Double provolone, real avocado spread, sliced cucumber, alfalfa sprouts, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. (Try it on my 7-grain whole wheat bread. This veggie sandwich is world class!)
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- ★ Extra load of meat
- ★ Extra cheese or extra avocado spread
- ★ Hot Peppers

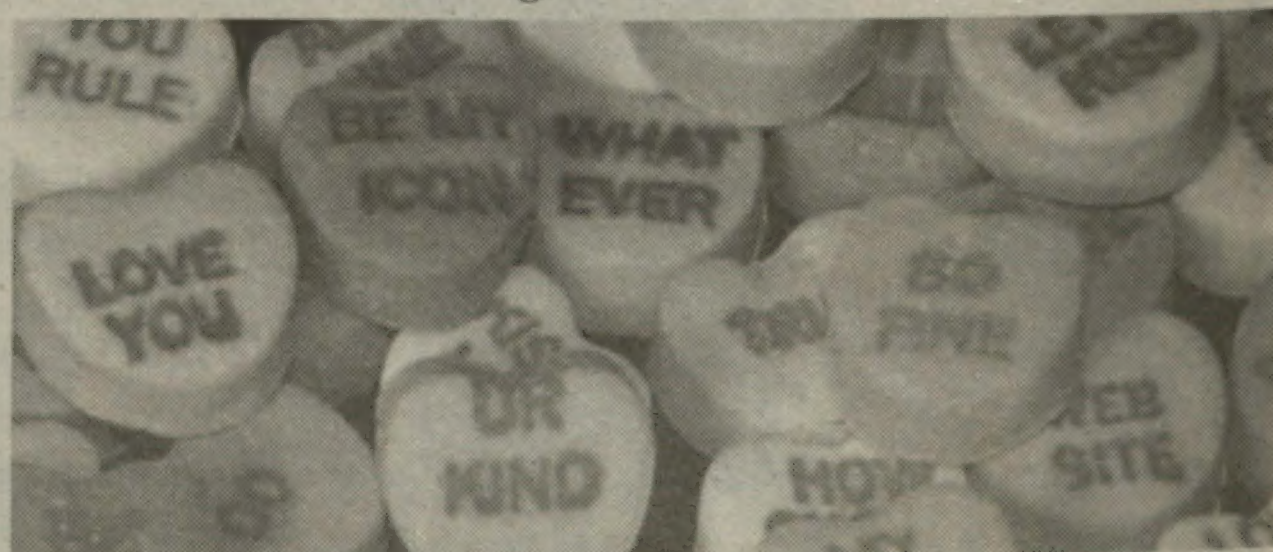
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Gateway girls discuss the highs and lows of the chocolate and flowers of all holidays

excite every woman...



Valentine's Day: Why not?

I've never been one for romance, but I do admit that Valentine's Day is my favorite holiday.

I know it is a commercial holiday made to encourage men to buy jewelry for their ladies, but I can't help it.

I love that there is one day in the year that I will feel truly pampered by my significant other. It is a day to celebrate why you love those close to you and to make sure they know how you feel.

It doesn't have to be about a \$30 stuffed animal. Instead, it could mean a candlelit dinner with just the two of you or watching "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" with your sweetheart and favorite ice cream.

The only thing about this holiday is how secluded it is. Any person not apart of a couple instantly stands out like a sore thumb on Valentine's Day.

Whenever I happened to be single for the holiday, I tried to make sure to enjoy my freedom and often times I spent the day making fun of the cuddly couples while proudly announcing that relationships are overrated. So whether I am single or in a relationship, I always look forward to Valentine's Day.

If you aren't a big fan of the cheap stuffed animals and the boxes of chocolate, at least do something helpful for your family or friends to let them know you care. Valentine's Day can be less commercial and more about letting people close to you know that you care.

So whether you are a part of a couple or going solo, Valentine's Day can be for just about anyone. So why not?

-Pam Bouterse
Features Editor



Love: Hard to define and understand

When I think of Valentine's Day I think of two things: understanding this idea of love and my late grandpa, affectionately referred to as Papa, as the holiday was his birthday.

Growing up, Feb. 14 was definitely viewed as a less-than-ordinary day.

My father would buy my mother a gushy Hallmark card (or whichever one he happened to grab from the gas station that day). She would complain that he never bought her flowers or jewelry (unless one of us kids told him he had to), but they would still exchange kisses and intimate looks.

I would go to school with a bag full of cartoon character valentines with candy taped to them, ready to distribute into the brightly decorated boxes we made the day before. When I'd see Papa, I'd offer him candy I received that day, but he would decline saying, "I'm sweet enough the way I am." (It was only a year after he died that I realized he was diabetic, the real reason why he'd refuse my offers.)

I don't think I understood much about what the day meant back then, and sometimes I wonder it's meaning still.

At my age and newfound relationship status, as much as I'd like to pretend that Valentine's Day is just another, ordinary day, I can't.

How could I, with retail advertisers pointing me to buy something special for my "significant other" when I don't have one or to expect fine jewelry when there's no one for me to receive from?

It's so easy to be bogged down by these feelings of loneliness, especially when it everywhere I turn. My friends are getting engaged or telling me how "in love" they are. Constantly, I remind myself that love will happen when it's meant to. Patience is a virtue.

But still, I sometimes mope around thinking that my life sucks

because I'm again "alone." Then I put things into perspective and realize that it's not as bad as it seems. Sure, I may no longer have the chance to share intimacies as I once did with my ex-boyfriend, but at least I'm not dying or being blown up. My life could be much, much worse.

Mainstream advertising and Hollywood catches most of us imaginary realm of how things "should" be. But in the real world, these ideas aren't realistic.

Realistically, love is work. Relationships in general are. It's not easy. It's not all roses, chocolates and teddy bears. It's gritting your teeth, crying from frustration and being brutally honest with yourself.

But even if you've work so hard to keep a relationship alive and it fails, it's easy to let feelings of loneliness take over, which causes people to say and do things they didn't originally intend to.

It's all too common for me to see a broken-hearted girl immediately go to bed with a complete stranger or utter the words "I love you" without meaning. That's not love. That's loneliness.

Love is a quirky thing. Sometimes you may think you have it or the person you think you're in love with figured out, but then you're thrown for a curveball. It's always changing. It may not mean that love is no longer present, but it's just ... different.

One of my favorite Bible verses, Proverbs 4:23, appropriately warns all about love. "Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life." It's so true. Sometimes you need to be cautious, but at the same time let things fall into place.

Everything happens for a reason. Even if it means we are "alone" on Valentine's Day once again.

-Cassy Loseke
Copy & LineEditor

Originality based on insight

Though the idea of Valentine's Day is one set with good intents, the way our society treats this holiday is crazy. A lot of people spend money on this day in order to satisfy the pressure that this holiday puts on their romantic relationship. Therefore, for many, Valentine's Day may be very stressful.

Personally, I believe that if you are in a healthy relationship, there is no need for a holiday to pressure you into showing your partner how much that you care about them. Love is about a connection that two people have because of how their personalities react to one another.

Consequently, a monetary gift shouldn't be needed in order to

show another person how much that you love them. If you do choose to give your partner a monetary gift, it should be on your own terms and not determined by a pre-existing holiday that stipulates that you are required to meet this need.

Love isn't about money. It's about having someone there in the good times and in the bad. It's about a support system that two people share to get them through the hell that life can be, and a simple, "I love you" can be just as good, if not better, than a \$20 teddy bear.

-Nicole Higginbotham
Asst. News/Sports Editor



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*EMPLOYMENT ISSUE

Release Date - Friday, February 29th, 2008

Deadline - Wednesday, February 27th, 2008

This issue runs in conjunction with the UNO Career Fair. Gives companies, as well as any career service-related companies [i.e. résumé writing centers] a chance to advertise employment opportunities.

*SPRING BREAK EDITION

Release Date - Tuesday, March 11th, 2008

Deadline - Friday, March 5th, 2008

Last issue before spring break: a great way to advertise spring break specials.

*YEAR IN REVIEW

Release Date - Monday, April 21st, 2008

Deadline - Friday, March 14th, 2008

Magazine-style issue that gives businesses a last chance to advertise during the normal school year. This issue is available to outgoing seniors, regular students, all incoming freshmen during orientation, prospective students on campus tours, UNMC, and state government offices.



Forum creates 'difficult dialogue' among African Americans, Africans

ANDREA BARBE
ASST. FEATURES/A&L EDITOR

In the fight to make UNO more unified, several organizations came together to show their support for cultural harmony on campus.

The Pan-African Student Gathering held the second Black on Black Proposal Friday in the Milo Bail Student Center's Nebraska Room. During the hour-long forum, students and faculty members discussed ways to bridge the gap between all races, but more specifically between African-born citizens and African-Americans.

Senior Fiona Mpungu, who is originally from South Africa, missed the first discussion last November, but wanted make sure her opinions were voiced.

"I had heard that the dialogue last year brought up some good issues," Mpungu said. "This type of event is designed to educate everyone on racial issues while bringing us all together. It gives us all a chance to look at our lives and to really see others. We get to discuss our

similarities and our differences, while trying to eliminate those myths and perceptions we all have about the other group."

Some of the forum's hot topics included being the only minority in a class or group, social and economic differences and educating while embracing each other's history. Overall, the forum's underlying theme was to make sure "awareness erases ignorance" for all cultures and ethnicities.

Student Government Vice President Buey Ruet was also in attendance and said that while he attended high school, he would get into fights almost every week because of his ethnic background.

"Kids would call me an African as an insult," Ruet said. "Now that I'm in college, I don't have that problem anymore. People now ask me questions out of curiosity. There isn't that childish attitude about it any more because we [Africans and African-Americans] are both black and we've both been discriminated against."

As president for the African-American Organization,

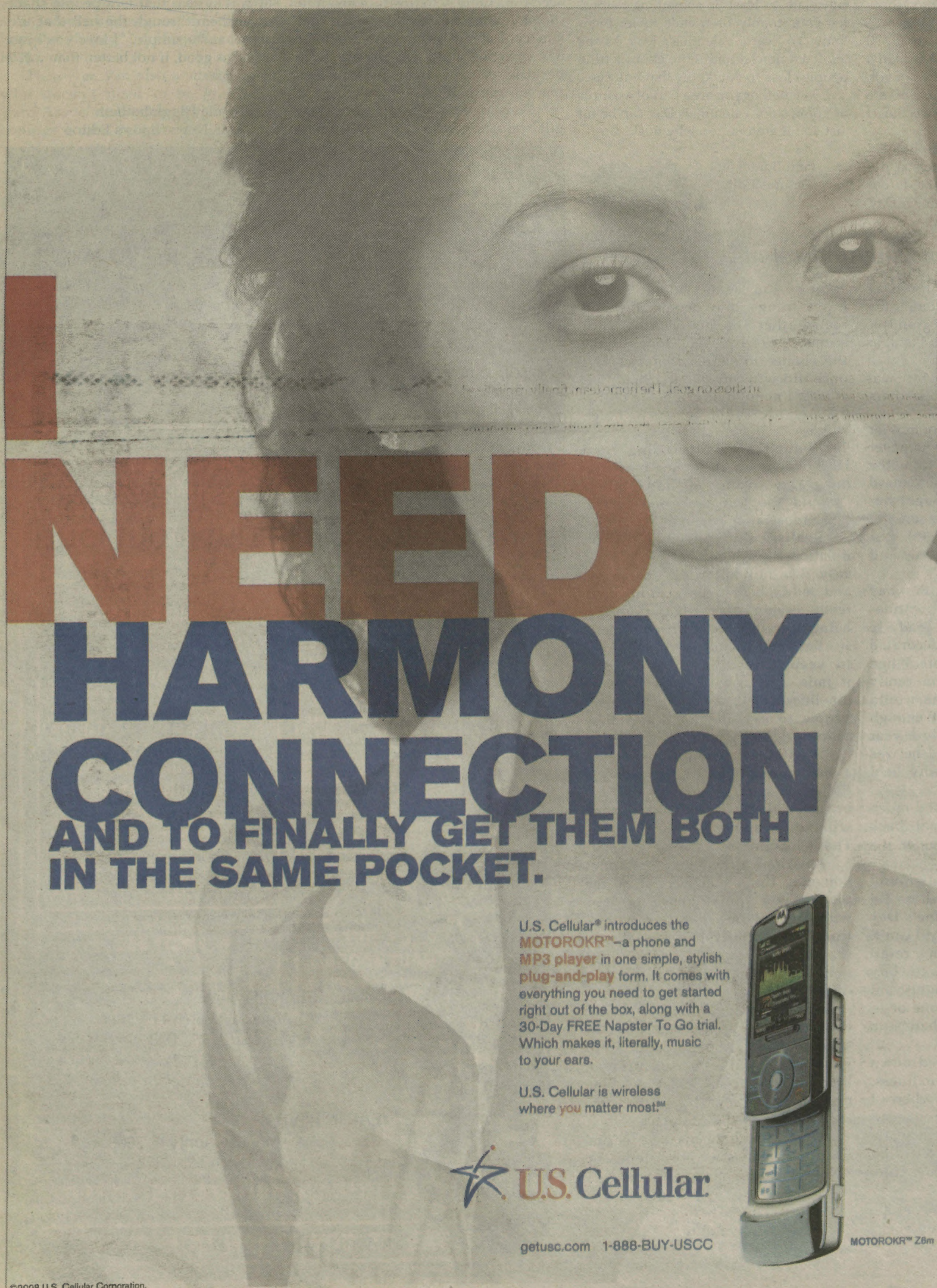
sophomore JoAnna LeFlore felt that despite last year's large attendance, this year's forum accomplished more the second time around.

"We decided to sit in a circle and we got to talk about some real issues without feeling any pressure because we knew no one was trying to offend anyone else," LeFlore said. "But I think the second [forum] was better because more people contributed to the dialogue."

On Feb. 22, AAO will be throwing a reggae party at Club Roxbury on 108 and Q streets. All students and student organizations are encouraged to participate.

"I just want UNO to know that there are active students in these organizations and maybe there are some students who feel like their voice isn't being heard," LeFlore said. "We want them to know that they can come join us at AAO or PASO and sort those issues out."

Friday's forum was sponsored by the African-American Organization, the National Council for Negro Women, the Pan-African Student Organization and the Difficult Dialogues mini-grant program.




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Sports

Jason Sibson | Sports Editor

Page 7

sports@unogateway.com | February 12, 2008

Record crowd cheer hockey seniors in home win

Mavs tie visiting Ohio State Friday, win 5-2 Saturday in front of 10,598 UNO faithful



photo by Michelle Bishop

Ohio State goalie Joseph Palmer watches as Brandon Scero and Bryan Marshall celebrate Eddie Del Grosso's goal that put the Mavs up 3-2 in the third period of Saturday's game. A school record crowd of 10,598 attended the game.

CHARLEY REED
A&L EDITOR

"When was the last time we won [at home]?" senior captain Bryan Marshall had to ask after the Maverick hockey team's win on Saturday against Ohio State.

It's been rare for the UNO hockey team to see things come together. So, when 10,598 people showed up at the Qwest Center on Senior Night for a nationally televised game, it made the 5-2 win something truly special.

The Mavs, now 13-13-4 overall and 10-10-4 in Central Collegiate Hockey Association play, have had a love-hate relationship with their home ice. Winning just four of their 14 home games going into the series, the Qwest Center had been anything but an advantage.

On Friday the Buckeyes, now 9-20-3 overall and 5-15-2 in the CCHA, put the Mavericks in an early hole 12:10 into the first period thanks to Kyle Hood. Hood's goal was echoed by Tom Fritsche with just six seconds left to go in

the period.

Going into the second period, UNO was down 2-0 with an eye-popping 13-4 disadvantage in shots on goal. UNO managed to fight back in the early stages of the second with two bang-bang goals scored within 30 seconds of each other. Sophomore defenseman Ed DelGrosso fired a wrist shot past OSU goaltender Joseph Palmer at 2:20 in the second, followed shortly thereafter by sophomore Dan Swanson at 2:50.

Despite the tie score, UNO was still down in shots on goal, now 26-9. OSU saw fit to keep the Mavericks from gaining any momentum as Kyle Reed scored just over 30 seconds into the final period.

However, a heads-up play by Bill Bagron tied the game at three.

Despite some close chances on both sides, UNO and OSU fought to a tie at the end of a 5-minute overtime period. The final marked the fourth tie at home this season for the Mavs, keeping them winless at home for a fifth straight game.

Saturday's game was also extremely tight throughout. Shortly after being honored in front of the record-setting crowd before the puck was dropped, senior Brandon Scero scored the opening goal of the game at 5:25 with a beautiful assist from Lawrence through the crease.

OSU's John Albert scored just over five minutes later to knot the game at one. Neither team would score again until the third period.

However, the second period was where UNO began to take over.

Entering the third period, UNO was up 25-10 in shots on goal. The home team finally capitalized when another senior, Marshall, mimicked the Mavericks' first goal, this time with Scero providing the helper.

Once again, it only took OSU five minutes to respond. This time Johann Kroll took advantage of a rebound that never quite escaped goaltender Jerad Kaufmann's pads, dragging the errant puck away from Kaufmann and ushering it into the net. It would be DelGrosso who would score the game-winner, sending a roaring one-timer over Palmer's shoulder on a pass from Lawrence.

"That's one of the plays [Lawrence and I] work on a lot – the one-timer between two of us, because we're both on our one-timer side," Del Grosso said. "Just trading back and forth – sometimes he gets them, sometimes I get them."

UNO continued to dominate time of possession, and at 18:08 sophomore Jeric Agosta increased the lead to two goals, scoring the team's lone even-strength goal of the night. A penalty would be called on OSU's Peter Boyd just 30 seconds later and, with Palmer pulled from the net, Lawrence easily added a goal to his earlier assists and finalized the game's score at 5-2.

With the goal, Lawrence is at 13 power play goals

on the season and 21 for his career, just three shy of former Maverick Scott Parse's school record. Captain Bryan Marshall, who moved his point total on the season to 43, was trying hard not to smile when thinking about what the win meant to him.

"I'd say the best part about the whole win is that we've had huge crowds all year, and finally we get a good win against a big school," he said. "As far as standings are concerned, it's huge. It puts us in a good spot."

With the win, UNO is once again alone in fifth place in their conference. With two more games played than most of the teams in the league, the current two-point gap between UNO and Bowling Green is extremely important as UNO hosts the Falcons at the Civic Auditorium this weekend.

"Next weekend's big. It's an eight-point weekend, it's not a four-point weekend," Kemp said.

After taking three of four points from OSU, the players and their coach are looking forward to the team's last chance to make some noise in the conference. The players are hoping all of the 10,000-plus fans are there to see it happen.

"The roof will blow off," Scero said.

UNO plays host to Bowling Green at the Civic Auditorium this Friday and Saturday night in their final conference home series. The puck drops at 7:05 p.m. both nights, and admission is free for students.

Student government and the Athletic Department will also sponsor free bus transportation both nights from Sam & Louie's at 7641 Cass St. at 6 p.m. and the UNO bell tower at 6:15 p.m.



photo by Michelle Bishop

Linesman Jason Buzzell (left) and Todd Lacina (right) work to break up a scuffle after the conclusion of Saturday's game.



photo by Michelle Bishop

Nick Von Bokern sends Ohio State's Jason DeSantis to the ice during Saturday's game. The Mavs beat the Buckeyes 5-2.

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A night of redemption, domination

Mavericks thump No. 1 Minnesota State 32-7 in locally televised dual

JASON SIBSON
SPORTS EDITOR

The stage was set.

Fans from across the Midwest were spewing out of the bleachers of the Sapp Fieldhouse. Television cameras panned back and forth between the No. 1 Minnesota State, Mankato Mavericks and the No. 2 Mavericks of UNO.

Mankato had beaten UNO 19-17 in sudden death just last month to claim the Nebraska Wrestling Coaches Association National Duals Title, and both teams were eager to proclaim themselves as the best team in Division II wrestling.

Quickly, the luster faded.

Cody Garcia, the No. 1 wrestler at 125 pounds, shot UNO out of a cannon in the opening bout. A 15-3 major decision over MSU's Nick Smith, the nation's No. 2, got the ball rolling.

It also proved just how far ahead Garcia is of the rest of his weight class.

"Cody is a dominant force. ... He is so disciplined," said UNO Head Coach Mike Denney of his pace-setting sophomore.

UNO's lead had ballooned to 14-0 after No. 1 Todd Meneely blew out No. 5 Tommy Abbot 21-8 in the 149-pound match.

No. 1 MSU then showed some fight, winning the next two bouts to cut UNO's lead in half.

It was junior Ross Taplin, No. 4 at 174 pounds, who brought UNO fans back to their feet and put the match out of reach. Taplin notched several takedowns and a near fall in the first two periods before pinning Mankato's Tim Matheson in the third.

"Ross came out ready to go," Denney said. "That was impressive."

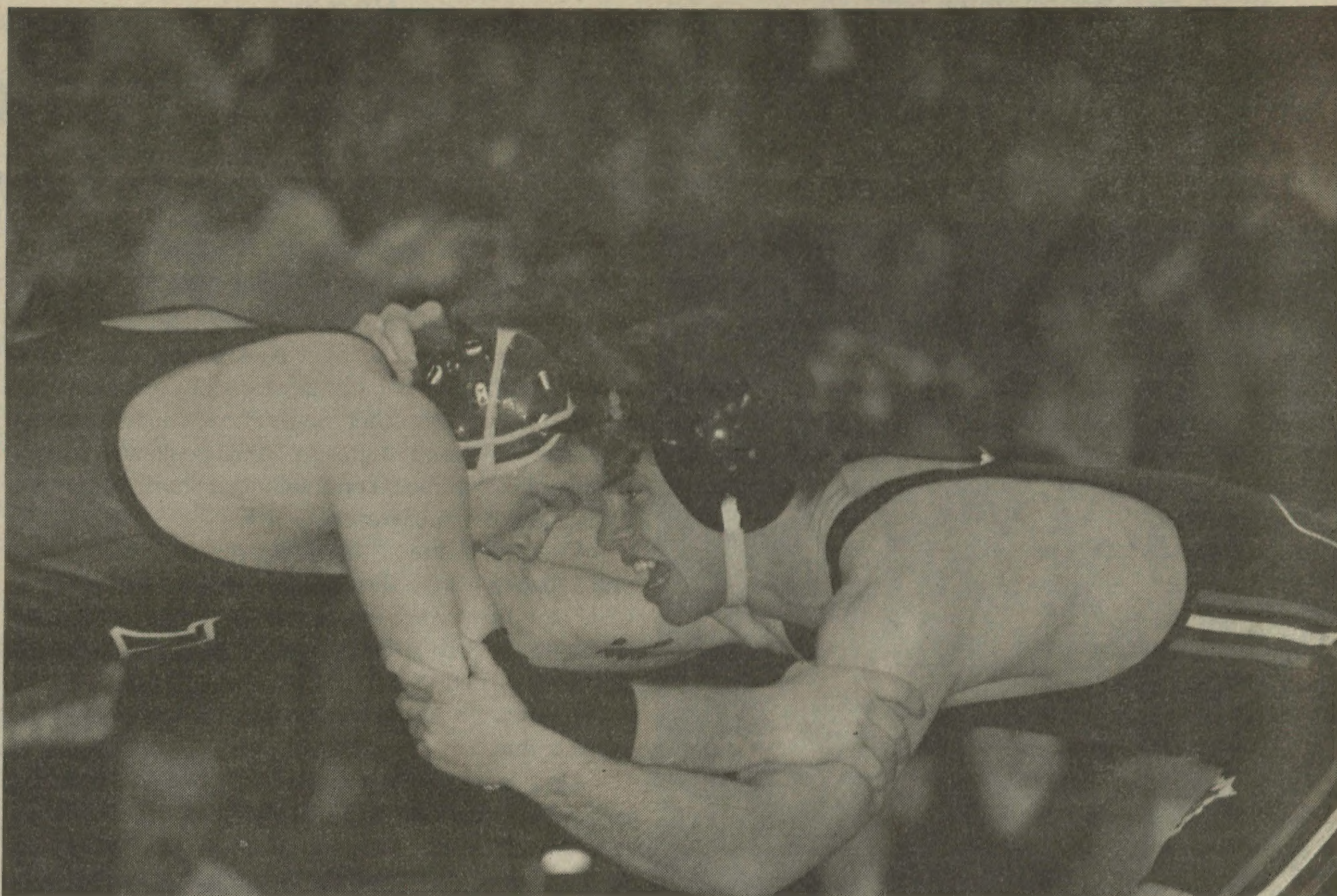


photo by Bill Wendt

Aaron Denson (right) grapples with Minnesota State, Mankato's Andy Pikar Friday night. Denson went on to defeat Pikar in their 165-pound match and UNO defeated No. 1 ranked Minnesota State, Mankato winning 32-7.

On this night of redemption, Denney couldn't have scripted a better ending. The final bout pinned No. 6 Tony Lewis against No. 2 Brady Wilson. The two heavyweights last met in the final match of the NWCA National Duals Title, where Wilson took down Lewis during sudden death to capture the crown for MSU.

This time around, the two battled through multiple overtimes before Lewis got his revenge. A thrilling 3-1 triumph capped off a glorious night for the home team and brought the remaining UNO faithful to their feet one last time.

UNO had embarrassed the visiting Mavericks, 32-7.

"We talked about

doing what we do: Be consistent and play hard," Denney said. "I'm really proud of our guys."

The win marks the third blowout win over a Top 4 team in the last eight days for UNO. It also undoubtedly assured them a spot as the new No. 1 team in Division II.

The Mavs have two February duals left, both at home, before the North Regional tournament in March.

"We want to really get rested, train well and keep our edge over the next few weeks," Denney said. "We can, and we have to."

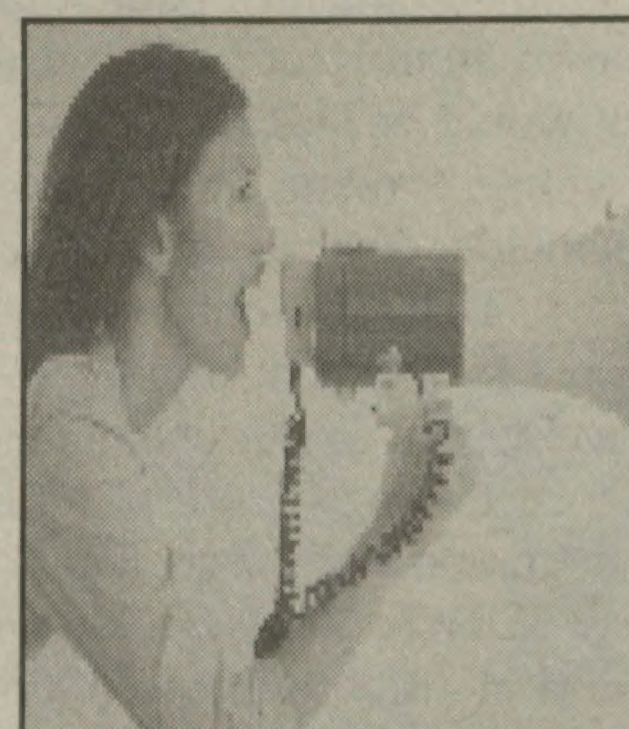
The Mavericks will host Augustana College tomorrow night at 7 p.m. with tickets available free to UNO students.

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Serenity now: Mistake-plagued Mavs fall short against Coyotes

BRETT OSTRONIC
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

It's not a stretch to say that the UNO women's basketball team has not yet reached its potential. Not competing for the entire game has plagued the Mavs, and unfortunately, that trend continued Saturday at the Sapp Fieldhouse as the Mavs fell 78-66 on a cold day in the Metro area.

Sporting pink headbands for breast cancer awareness, UNO (16-7 overall, 2-5 in the North Central Conference) looked to play the role of spoiler on Saturday as they took on No. 4 South Dakota (20-1 overall, 6-0 in the NCC).



photo by Bill Wendt

Mary Brown saves the ball from going out of bounds during Saturday's game against South Dakota. UNO lost the game 78-66 and extended the Coyotes winning streak to 18 games.

The Mavs took a brief lead at 18-17 on a Cayla Hargrove three-pointer midway through the first half. At the 6-minute mark, a 13-4 run by the Coyotes expanded the lead to 10 by halftime.

The second half belonged to a Coyote team that, after Saturday, had tied the USD record with 17 consecutive wins. The Mavs were off and running in the second half, producing a 9-2 run, only to have that effort trumped by a 15-2 USD run. Even with Alyssa Green scoring 14 of her game-high 22 points in the

second half, the Coyotes were too tough to compete with in the end.

"The 26 turnovers is the game," said UNO Head Coach Patty Patton Shearer. "And I think we had a lot of miscues defensively. So there were things we could control."

For UNO offensively, Lindsey Klug finished with 10 points and played strong at the point, committing just one turnover. The Mavs shot 46 percent from the floor as a team.

"We had a low in the second half, which is something that we tend to do, and we just go through the motions for three or four minutes," Shearer said.

It's in those three to four minutes that games are lost.

USD's second team academic All-American Jeana Hoffman shot seven of 17 from the floor and had a team-high 21 points as well as four steals.

"She's a good player," South Dakota Head Coach Chad Lavin said. "There's a reason why she is the leading scorer in the league."

"We just couldn't put 40 minutes together," said UNO's Mary Brown, who finished with five points and a steal. "We just have to put a whole game together, and then we might be there."

Shearer and her team have just five games remaining, but it will feel like an eternity with the

possibility of an NCAA Tournament bid on the line. They need help from some other teams and competitiveness on their part to reach that goal.

"We have to believe in ourselves that we can compete on the same floor as a team that feels like it can fight for it all," Shearer said.

Up next, the Mavs will travel along the Mississippi River to Minnesota to take on St. Cloud State University. SCSU has dropped five of their last six games, including an 81-77 defeat at the hands of UNO on Feb. 2.

Mavericks upset No. 4 South Dakota

KEVIN CLEMENS
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

All five UNO starters reached double figures in a complete team victory over South Dakota in front of a packed Sapp Fieldhouse on Saturday night.

UNO used their speed and athleticism to fight off the Coyotes in a convincing 75-60 win. The win improves the Mavericks to 18-4 on the season and 4-3 within the North Central Conference.

UNO came out running in the game and caught a big South Dakota team on its heels, staking a 43-29 lead at halftime.

The Mavericks moved the ball well in the game and played tough defense to hold off the Coyotes for the victory.

Michael Jenkins used his ability to get to the basket to lead the Mavericks in scoring with 19 points.

"I like getting into the lane and trying to draw some contact and getting to the line," Jenkins said. "I was able to get into the lane tonight, and the shots were falling."

The junior from Bellevue also contributed four assists and three rebounds.

"[They are the] No. 4 team in the nation, and we felt like we kind of gave one up there in South Dakota. We just talked all week in practice about playing hard, and it was a good win," Jenkins said.

Senior Jerry Bennett scored from all over the floor for the Mavericks as he recorded his seventh double-double of the season with 12 points and 13 rebounds. Bennett, who did not leave the floor once in Saturday's critical match-up, expanded his offensive game by knocking down baseline jumpers consistently throughout the game.

"I've been working on that all week," Bennett said. "I knew that shot would be open, so I took a lot of time after practice to work on my shot. Luckily, it fell tonight."

True point guard Andrew Bridger was all over the floor tonight and got the team running. Bridger recorded 11 points and eight assists to go with a team-high four steals.

"I got to get the ball out so we can get the ball to Michael and Denny on the wings, because obviously Justin can get up and down the floor a lot," Bridger said. "My goal is just get it down there so those guys can make a play."

The Mavericks were quite undersized as the average Coyote height was 6 foot 7, with a big center at 6 foot 11.

"It's tough and a disadvantage for me,

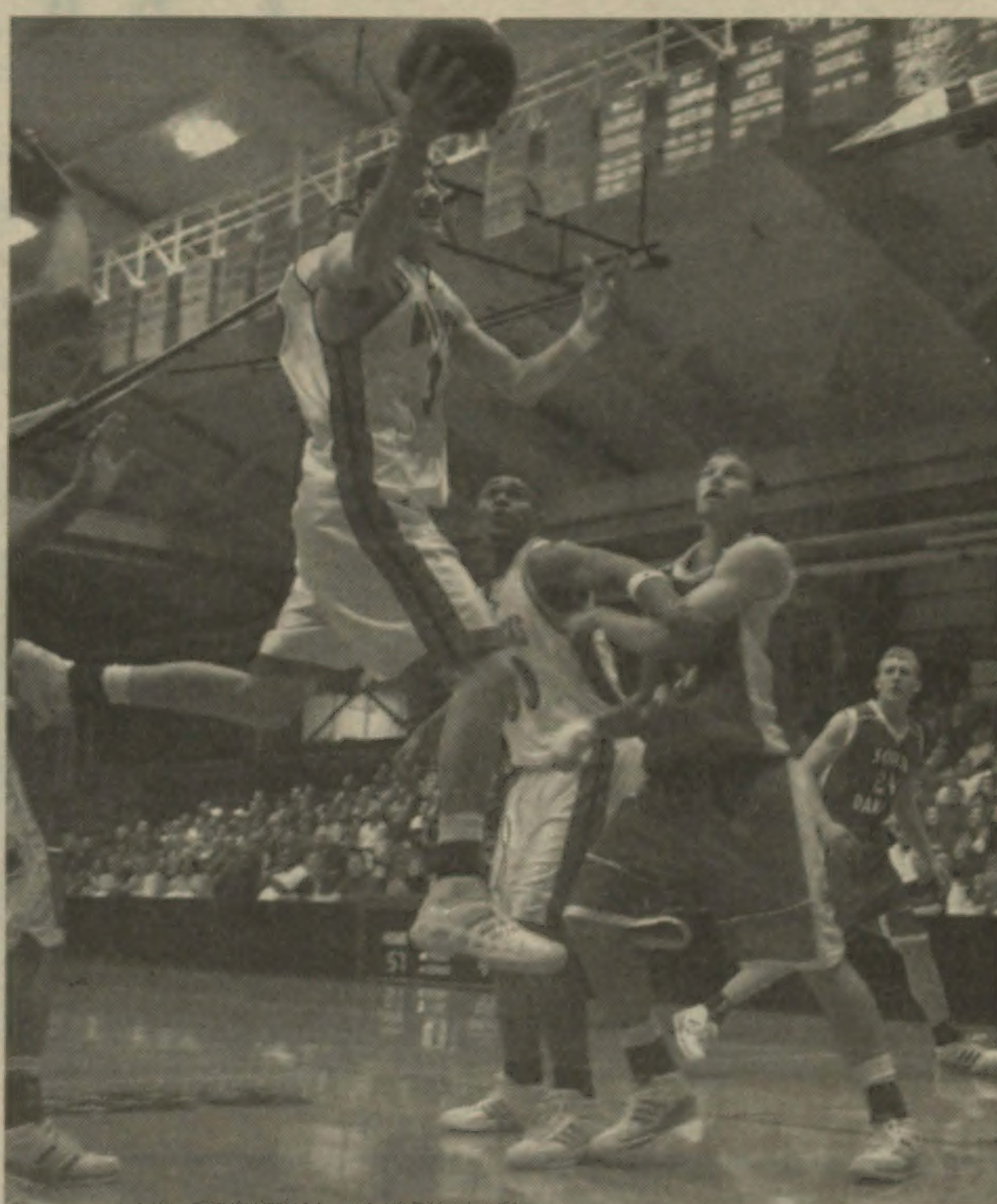


photo by Bill Wendt

Mitch Albers flies in for a lay up during UNO's 75-60 victory over No. 4 ranked South Dakota Saturday.

but I know that if I can work them in there and get offensive rebounds and play hard the shots will fall," Bennett said.

"We are a small team, and we aren't going to be able to pound it inside like other teams," Jenkins said. "[We] just get out and run and share the ball and everybody is so unselfish. Coach [Hansen] has done a good job of putting that into our heads."

Head Coach Derrin Hansen was pleased with his team's performance against a talented South Dakota roster.

"It comes down to us getting shots and making shots offensively," Hansen said. "Defensively we got to fight like crazy, and I thought our guys did a nice job of that tonight."

Denny Johnston, who was coming off recent NCC player of the week honors, had 12 points and six rebounds. Justin Petersen added 10 points and eight rebounds.

Tyler Albers gave UNO quality minutes off the bench, which resulted in seven points and five assists.

Dylan Grimsley led South Dakota in scoring with 19 points.

The win over South Dakota gives UNO their third win this season over teams ranked in the top 10.

"I think it gives us a lot of confidence, but we can't rest there," Hansen said. "We got a lot of work still to do, and we know that. We are going to enjoy [this win], but it's back to work on Monday."

UNO will be on the road for two conference games next week as they will face St. Cloud State on Thursday and then Minnesota State, Mankato on Saturday. The next home game for the Mavericks will be Feb. 28 against Minnesota Duluth.

Track team maintains strong pace, posts high marks at Adidas Classic

SEAN OWENS
STAFF WRITER

The UNO track team is off to a fast pace this year despite losing coveted talent in the off-season. Stepping up in place of graduated All-Americans, junior sprinters Pinar Saka and Molly Belling have filled the shoes of UNO's former athletes with great urgency.

Helping pave the way for the undergraduates, senior distance runner Kaylen Harris has also made her presence felt in 2008.

On Friday at the Adidas Classic in Lincoln, Harris took the title for UNO in the 5000-meter run. Harris finished a full 10 seconds ahead of her competition with a time of 18:34.73.

The Omaha native has played a vital role in shaping the UNO track and cross country teams throughout her years as a college student. In this final season for her, hopes to make nationals are at an all-time peak, and the time is now.

Adding to the success of Harris are two junior sprinters who are swiftly making names for themselves.

Belling, who has been nursing a foot injury the last two weeks, has been outstanding in her achievements as a college athlete for UNO. Belling has already posted a first place finish this year in the 60-meter dash with a time of 7.73, earning her a provisional national qualifying time in the event.

Saka has made perhaps the most noise in her running as of late. She has earned North Central Conference runner-of-the-week honors three consecutive weeks and holds the fastest times in Division II in the indoor 200- and 400-meter events, posting times of 24.29 and 53.91 respectively.

The Istanbul, Turkey, native also posted the fastest time of all divisions in the preliminaries of the 400-meter event one week ago in Lincoln with a time of 53.61. She posted a 53.77 time to win the 400-meter finals as well.

"My goal is to beat the indoor Turkish national record in the 400-meter event," said Saka. "I feel like I can do it some

day, but it is not an easy thing to do."

This weekend the junior sprinter ran the 200- and 400-meter, finishing in second place in both events.

Edged twice by Alabama sprinters Trish Bartholomew and Chelsea Taylor, Saka kept pace but finished behind the Alabama duo's times of 24.23 and 53.87 with 24.40 and 53.94 times of her own. Finishing in second in the two events is a remarkable achievement, but to Saka it's not the kind of finish that she is happy with.

"I am mad at myself, because I think it could have been much better," said Saka. "I wish I could take the time back and run it again. I am upset that I didn't run fast enough."

The competitive fire that Saka brings is something that drives UNO's track program.

UNO will resume its action in Vermillion, S.D., at the John Dalton Open on Saturday, Feb. 16, at 9 a.m.



Kaylen Harris

LOVES JAZZ & ARTS CENTER

Musical love: African-American heritage a year-round passion North O's Loves Jazz, Arts Center

COMMENTARY BY
PAUL SMITH
CONTRIBUTOR

Loves Jazz and Arts Center is a gathering place for those interested in the preservation of African American art and history in Omaha.

LJAC includes the Preston Love gallery, a performing arts area and an exhibition space where many local artists are featured. The center also has a digital media lab used to help preserve photos, movies and audio recordings of donors with classrooms available to bring all of this and more to the community.

Located on the corner of 24th and Lake streets, LJAC is a wonderful place for a night of entertainment and culture in Omaha.

Preston Love, the namesake of the center, was one of the most respected alto saxophonists of his time. He was band leader for many Motown acts including Aretha Franklin, The Temptations and Stevie Wonder.

I have been to a handful of events at LJAC in North Omaha. I went to a performance by Yusef Komunyakaa who worked on "Wakonda's Dream," an opera performed in March 2007 at Opera Omaha. I have also been to a few poetry readings and open-mic nights at LJAC.

Most of the events have food and drinks, unless LJAC is catering to a younger crowd. LJAC is not only a center for youth education, but also it is a museum and art center.

Meeting poet and activist Amiri Baraka at Loves Jazz and Arts Center was one of the most memorable moments of my life, trumped only by hearing him read "Somebody Blew Up America" at Creighton University.

His words were apropos, biting and fueled with the experiences of years of activism. Baraka spoke surrounded by college students who were drowned in a sea of dim-witted students who had slightly more dim-witted questions because they were only attending to get credit for Intro to Black Studies courses.

I was also able to meet Michelle Troxclair, the administrative director of LJAC, at one of my first appearances at LJAC.

Troxclair is a wonderful woman and I have been able to talk to her on each of my subsequent visits.

She convinced me into purchasing a \$25 membership, so I would be able to visit LJAC for any event without further cost. For non-members, general admission is \$4,

or \$3.50 for students for any of their events. There are some events, however, which are free of charge.

According to the organization's Web site, lovesjazzartcenter.org, the mission of the center is "to preserve and promote the unique history and cultural talents of local and national African American artists."

Don't go to Loves Jazz and Arts Center because it is Black History Month, go because it is a great way to spend an evening, the music beats are filled with history, the poetry cuts with biting wit and the artwork shows you a history that you will never see on the pages of any textbooks.



photo courtesy of lovesjazzartcenter.org

photo courtesy of lovesjazzartcenter.org

Sculptures for a good cause at 'Heart Works' Glass Harmony series

DREW HANSON
CONTRIBUTOR

The Glass Harmony Gallery held the opening reception for its newest round of creative pieces on Friday, Feb. 8. The "Heart Works" series is a collection of Valentines Day-inspired work by artists Corey Broman and Joe and Rebecca Liebentritt.

Nestled next to O'Leaver's Pub at 1319 S. 50th St., the gallery has been featuring the trio's work since the summer of 2007 with themes ranging from the aquatic to holiday-inspired pieces. Keeping with the theme of this month's show, a portion of proceeds will be donated to the American Heart Association in celebration of American Heart Month.



photo by Bill Wendt

Broman, owner and resident glass blower, has been working with the medium for a decade, beginning as an understudy at Crystal Forge Glass Studios.

Upon completion of his work at Crystal Forge, Broman took an apprenticeship at Hastings College where he worked as the assistant to the "Professor of Glass" Tom Kreager. Broman has since featured his work in many galleries around the Midwest with his main focus being the Harmony Gallery.

Using hyperrealism, Joe Liebentritt's works are life-like creations for the art-lovers' walls. A recurring theme is a wine glass and bottle sitting on a table. The detail and realism of the paintings are so great, it's as if the glass can be plucked out of the canvas and take a sip.

"I love realism and the bulk of my work could be classified that way," Joe said about his work. "But sometimes I'll throw in a piece painted on tin ceiling tile or on a window just to make things interesting."

Rebecca's work has been featured in earlier shows at the gallery, but this is the first time she has received top billing.

David Helm, Chair of the Department of Art and Art History, explained that UNO does not offer any glass blowing classes.

"There are a number of safety concerns when working with something like glass," he said.

The kilns used for melting the glass are usually kept at 1,000 degrees Fahrenheit. Helm added that the cost of equipment and the specialization of the craft are also factors to why UNO does not offer instruction in the medium. But that may not always be the case.

"It would be something we would be interested in adding to department," Helm said.

The Glass Harmony Gallery is close to campus and offers something different to do on a Friday night. The Heart Works series runs through Feb. 29. More information on Glass Harmony Gallery can be found at glassharmony.com

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Opinion

Scott Stewart | Editor-in-Chief

Page 11

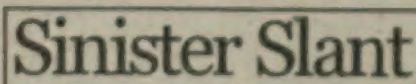
editor@unogateway.com | February 12, 2008

Editorial cartoonists needed: *Gateway* looks to revitalize opinion pages

The old saying goes that a picture is worth 1,000 words. In the world of opinion, though, a well-placed illustration can often be more effective than any explanatory treatise.

Because of this, political cartooning is a thing of pride for many newspapers. The *Omaha World-Herald*, for instance, has billboards advertising Jeff Koterba's political cartoons, and rightly so. K cartoonist.

Sadly, the *Gateway* has gone a while without great editorial cartoons. We do regularly run cartoons from the McClatchy Newspapers with a mix of nationally syndicated cartoonists, but we don't have any cartoonists to call our own.



Scott Stewart

It's my hope to change that in the coming months.

It wasn't always that the *Gateway* was without editorial cartoons. Perhaps my favorite one from our archives is one that illustrated a staff editorial "Read it and weep," originally published on Aug. 29, 1989. That editorial addressed the Board of Regents decision to remove NU President Ronald Roskens from office, a decision made behind closed doors for possibly nefarious reasons.

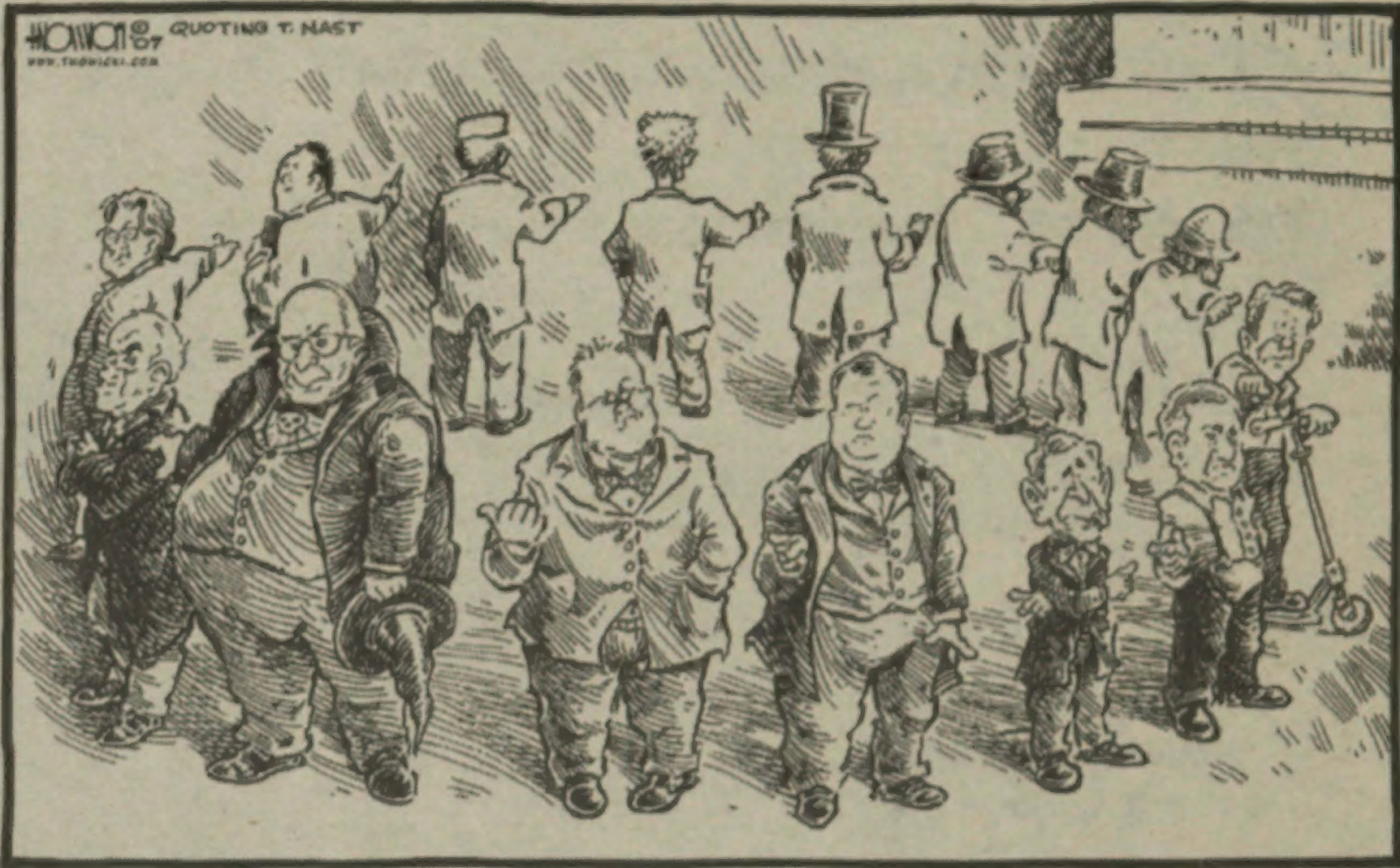
Perhaps the nicest touch about the cartoon, reprinted on this page, is the tagline after the headline, "This is not a series! Lucky you!" I just absolutely love how it encapsulates the attitude that existed – and, in some administrators, still exists – in the NU system.

In my mind, that cartoon's illustration of the situation at the university in 1989 rivals those of classic political cartoons, like Thomas Nast's famous "Tammany Ring" from 1871. In that cartoon, Nast asks who stole the people's money after reports from *The New York Times* showed that the Tammany Hall gang, ran by William "Boss" Tweed, had taken at least \$200 million from New York City over a period of 30 months through corrupt deals and favors.

Nast's "Tammany Ring" cartoon is one of those things you might notice if you take the time to read your U.S. history textbook.

It also is occasionally the object of allusion, as with McClatchy syndicated cartoonist Terrence Nowicki's "Quoting T. Nast" about the Valerie Plame scandal, with Vice President Dick Cheney standing in for Boss Tweed. (Frankly, I doubt there is a more apt way to explain Cheney, other than John Stewart mimicking Danny DeVito's performance of the Penguin in "Batman Returns" — but that's another story.)

Nowicki, by the way, is a senior art student at Western Washington University in Bellingham, Wash., and his cartoons are produced for their



"WHO OUTED VALERIE PLAME?" "TWAS HIM!"

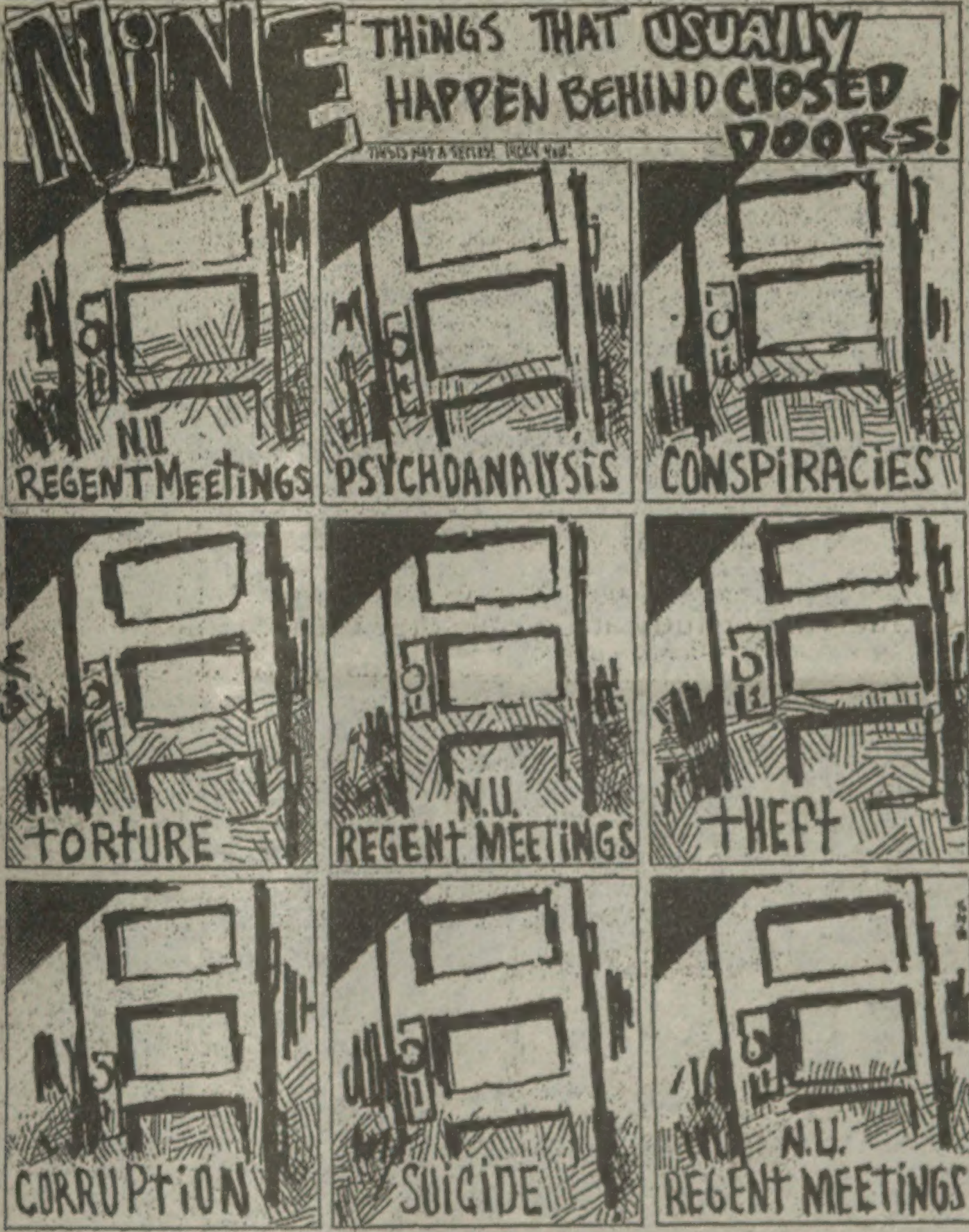


university's weekly *Western Front*.

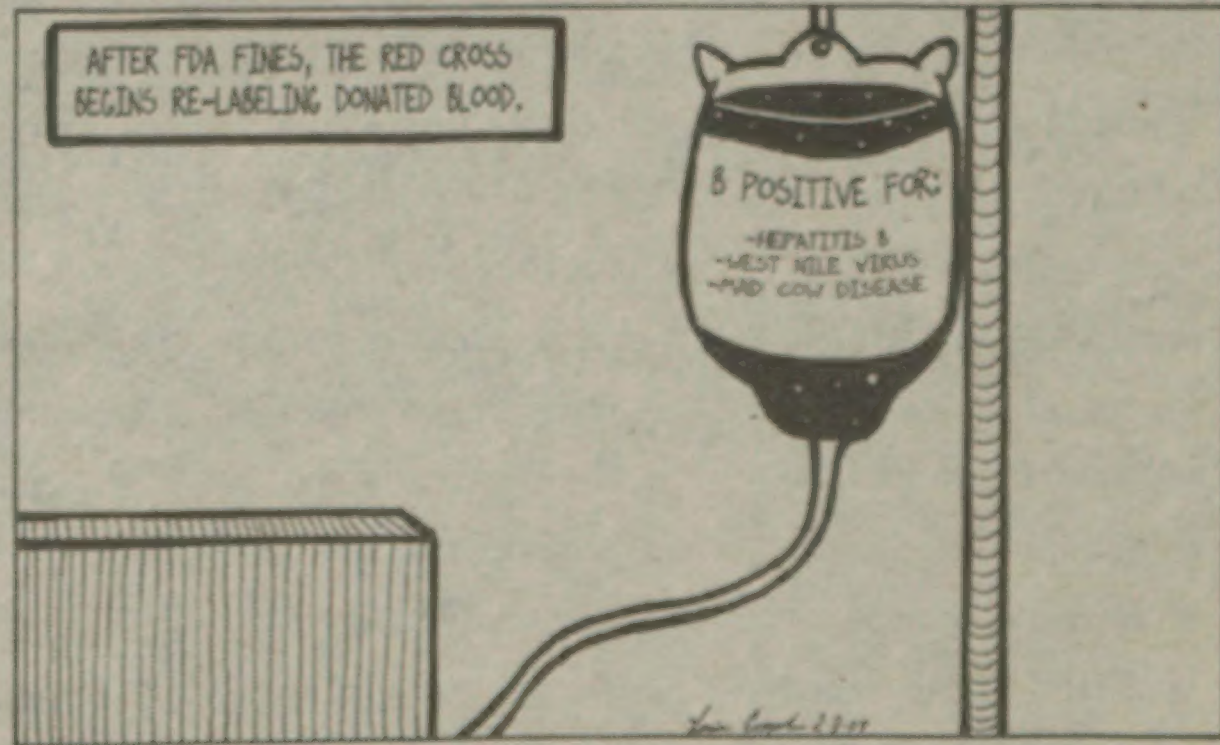
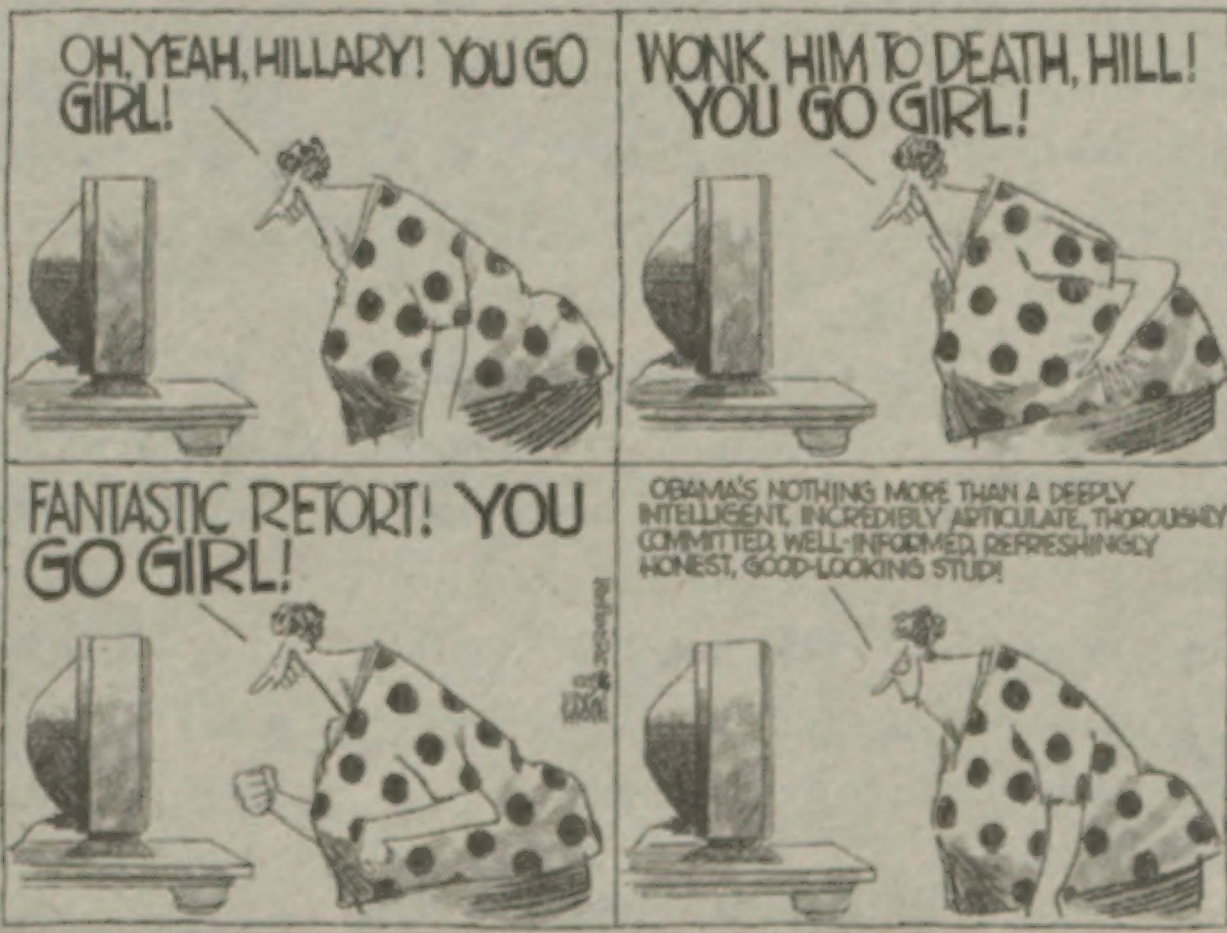
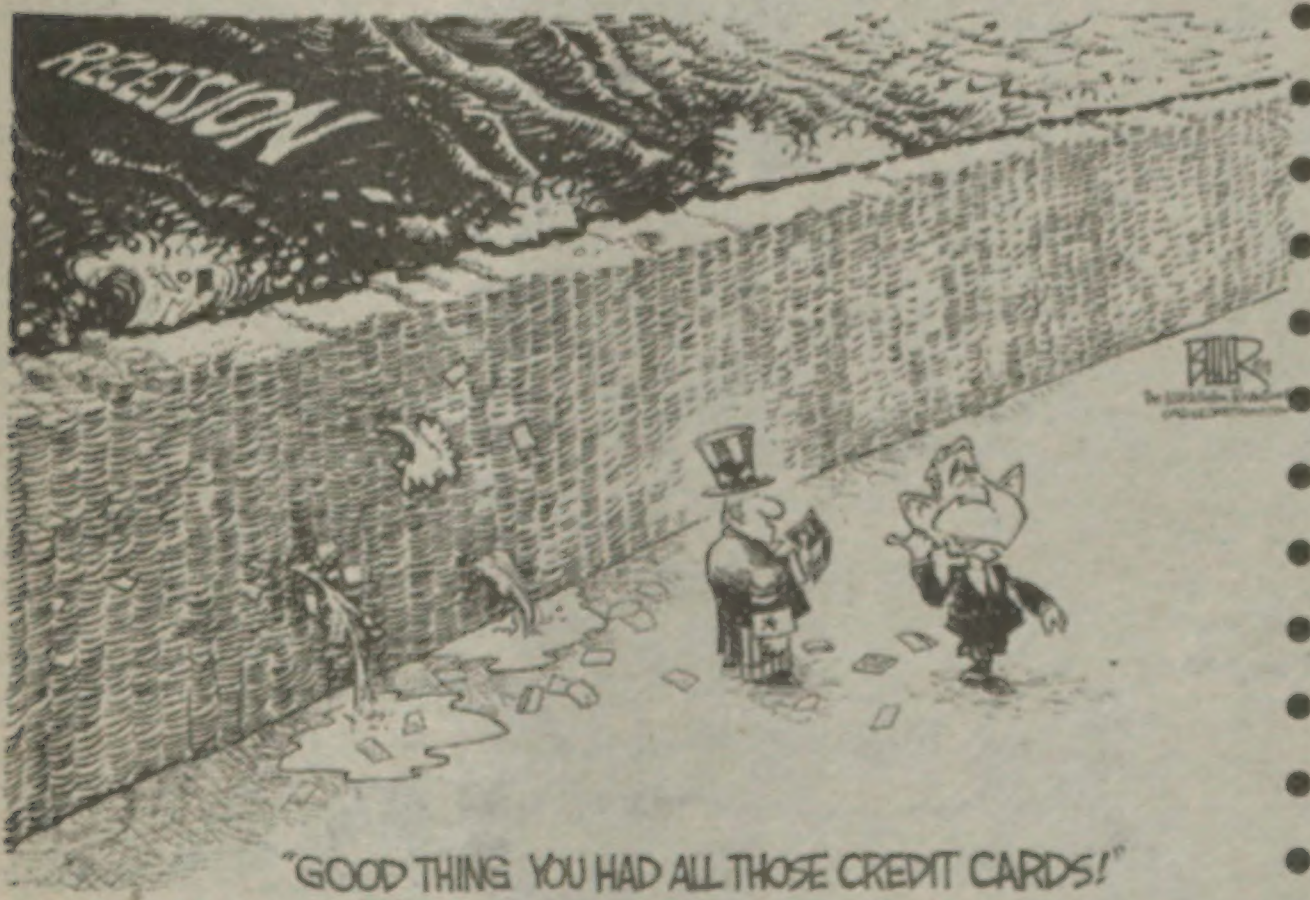
I figure that if Western Washington University can do it, so can the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Editorial cartoons are an important aspect of a newspaper's mission, and it's a shame that the *Gateway* has gotten away from them. It's time to go back to drawing them.

So if you or anyone you know is interested in contributing editorial cartoons for the *Gateway*, please let us know by e-mailing me at editor@unogateway.com or coming by our offices on the first floor of the Milo Bail Student Center. The *Gateway* needs you and, in my opinion at least, the university needs us.



Speaking of editorial cartoons • • • • •



Gateway Editorial & Letter Policies

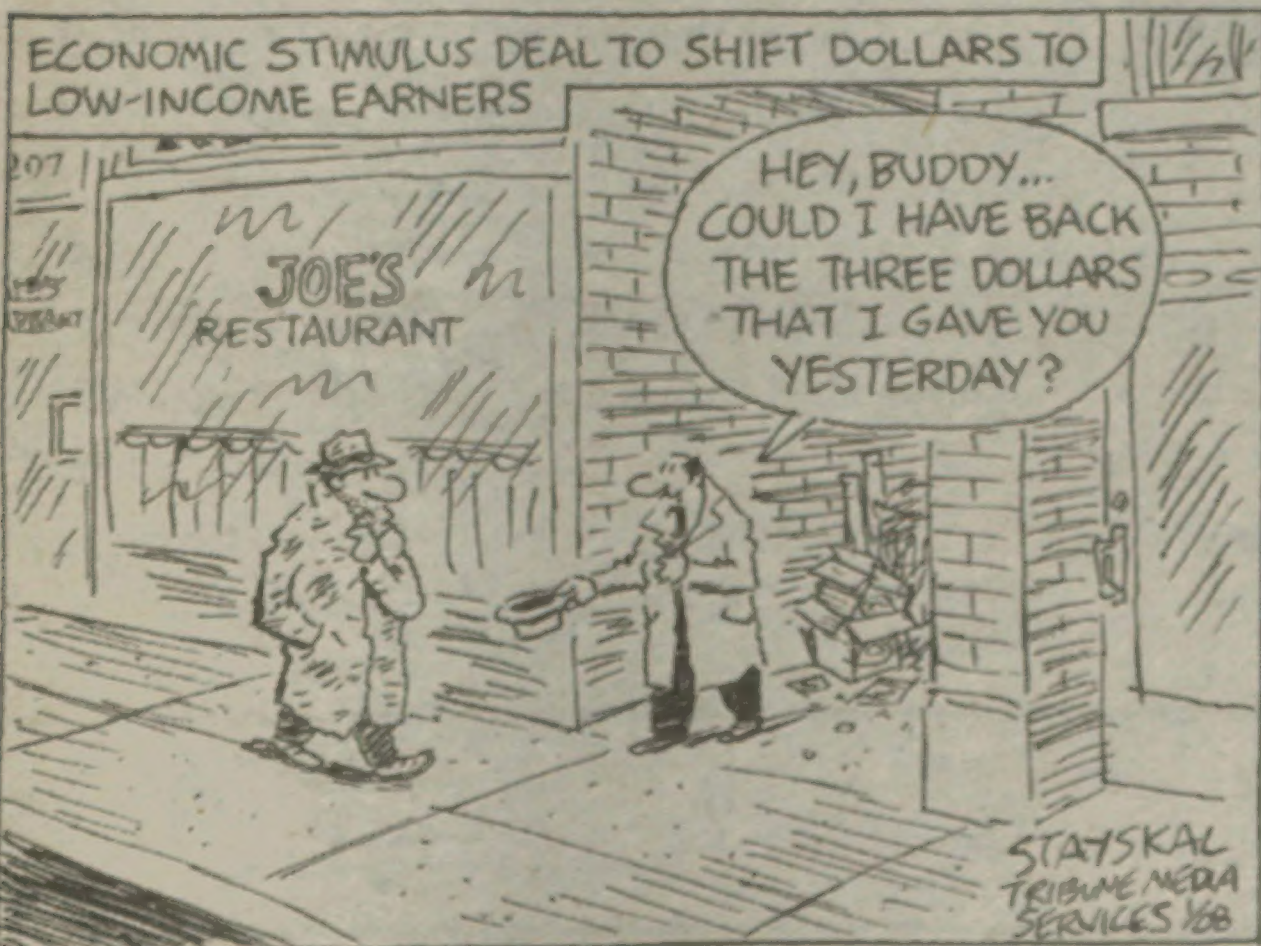
The opinions expressed on this page are not necessarily those of the University of Nebraska at Omaha, its student body or the University of Nebraska Board of Regents.

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Letters to the editor will be selected for publication on the basis of timeliness,

clarity and available space. The editor reserves the right to edit all letters for publication.

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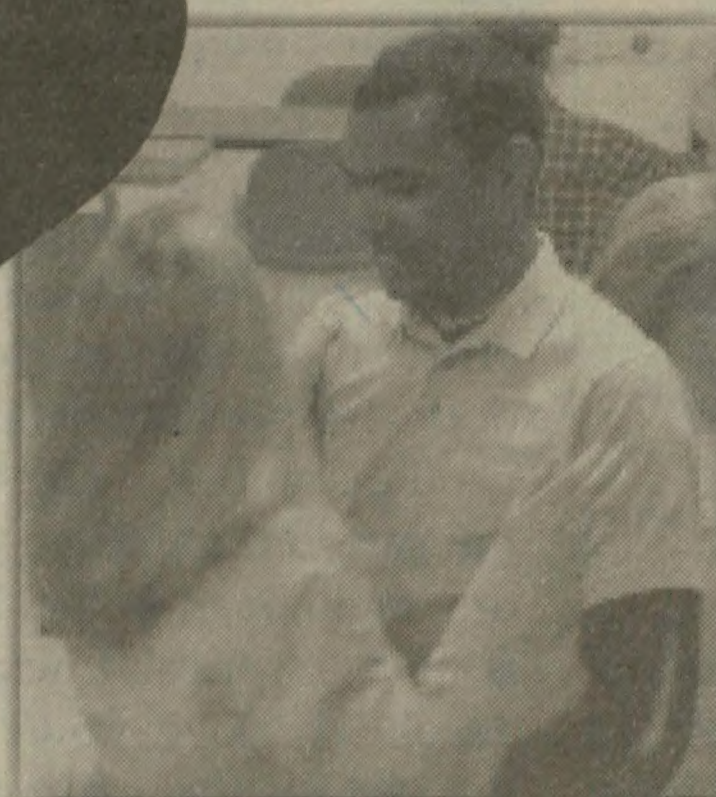
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